

GOULDS MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes – 4/6/2004

Meeting called to order at 7:11 pm by Lewis Canty.

Minute of Silent Meditation

Approval of Minutes – Quorum not present

Presentations by Robert Meyers/Director of Commission on Ethics and Public Trust and Cynthia Johnson/County Attorney's Office.

Voting Conflicts – two standards must be met

1. A direct benefit is received (directly affected like public at large is not affected)
2. Relationship with person making request must concern business relationship (does not have To be family relationship)

If there is a conflict, the conflict must be announced; then the person with the conflict must leave the room.

If there is a perception of a conflict; personal call by the person with the perceived conflict. An opinion can be received from Commission on Ethics and Trust prior to meeting

Question and Answer Period

Debate can be limited by the Chair of the meeting

Citizen's Bill of Rights – no one can be barred from future meetings

Public Records – MAC property versus public property (Ms. Johnson gave her phone number and requested that specific questions be addressed via telephone)

Cutler Ridge Steering Committee perceived voting conflict at the Boundaries Commission Meeting in January 2004. Mr. Meyers stated that an opinion was rendered on the information received; facts are not checked by Commission on Ethics and Trust. If additional facts are available, then ruling on Cutler Ridge issue can be readjusted. Steering Committees are not governmental entities. Mr. Meyers gave his phone number and requested that any specific information/facts that wanted to be presented or discussed can be done with him via telephone.

Perceived conflict with husband and wife on RAMAC board. Mr. Meyers stated that this was not a conflict of interest per se; not a violation of the Sunshine Law as long as board business is not discussed by the husband and the wife. Who is going to "police" their conversation???

The Commission on Ethics and Trust is the only entity that can render a Conflict of Interest opinion.

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Sunshine Law Discussion and Roberts Rules of Order

Ms. Johnson gave overview of the Sunshine Law and Roberts Rules of Order.

Numerous questions from panel and audience about the Sunshine Law.

Question about Steering Committee and MAC members in attendance at same meeting.

Ms. Johnson stated if two or more members of MAC attend Steering Committee meeting, as long as the MAC members remain silent at the Steering Committee meeting, there is no conflict.

MAC members must vote on every issue, unless there is a conflict of interest.

Motion by Mr. Dukes and seconded by Gladys Briscoe to accept minutes. All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Dukes and seconded by Gladys Briscoe to accept agenda as printed All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 by Mr. Canty.

Members in Attendance

Lewis Canty (Chairperson)

Elijah Dukes (Vice Chairperson)

Enid W. Demps (Secretary)

Gladys Briscoe

Eric Coffie